

good for the North-West to be made subservient to the interest of Old Canada. The legal right of the Parliament at Ottawa to deal with Manitoba as its own, in total disregard of the wishes of the Manitobans, to lay embargoes on settlement, to restrict the free development of railways, however vitally essential to the prosperity of the country, and to tax the agricultural implements the full command of which is not less indispensable, will be denied by no one; nor will any one who has studied the question deny the legal right of the Imperial Parliament before 1765 to tax the colonies and impose duties, at its pleasure, on their stamps and tea. On this point surely statesmen have had a sufficient lesson. Of the five demands embodied in the manifesto, freedom of local legislation, unrestricted railway development, abolition of the tax on agricultural implements, the recognition of Provincial interests in public lands, and the construction of a railway to Hudson's Bay, the first four are founded on just principles and will, in course of time, and in different measures, be conceded: the abolition of the almost comically iniquitous tax on agricultural implements will be conceded next session. But the last is founded on a principle of Government interference at variance with the first four. The Dominion will hardly be persuaded to incur the expense and all the other attendant evils of constructing a government railway to the ice-encumbered waters of Hudson's Bay.

PAUPERISM, when shipped by Europe to the United States, is peremptorily shipped back to the land from which it came. Canada as a dependency has no such means of self-protection, at least against the Imperial country. The consequence is that in spite of all the protests and warnings of the combined city charities, Toronto has received, at a season when there is no farm work to be had, a consignment of Irish of the most destitute and most helpless class. The pity which we all feel for the sufferings of these hapless people will not prevent us from seeing what is their character and condition. They are thus described by a journal which cannot be unkind to Catholics and has never been unkind to the Irish.

NOT SERVANTS, BUT LADIES.—The condition of the pauper Irish immigrants on Conway street has awakened the sympathies of the kind-hearted people all over the city for them. They have received food, furniture, and fuel, and they have been cared for to a much greater extent than some who are far more deserving. To say they are lazy is hardly expressing in strong enough language their love of idleness. They know they will not be allowed to die of starvation, and dozens of able-bodied women and men are living there from day to day with a firm determination to put in the winter on charity. A day or two ago a lady living in the country heard of the destitute condition of these people and wrote to a lady friend in the city asking her to try and engage a domestic for her from amongst them. Accordingly this lady visited Conway street and spent several hours in a vain endeavour to find a servant for her friend. She offered good wages, board, clothing, a comfortable home, and a year's engagement, but she was met with the astounding information that they had not come here to allow their girls to be servants but wanted them to be ladies.

People of this description are absolutely shameless mendicants. They regard mendicancy as a perfectly natural and most agreeable mode of getting their bread; being somewhat confirmed, perhaps, in this persuasion by the Church which holds up to admiration the example of the begging friar. Therein lies the special danger of this inroad. What we have had hitherto has not been pauperism in the worst sense of the term, but merely destitution, sometimes culpable, more often casual and such as inevitably attends the vicissitudes of trade, or is produced by the accidents of life in a great and growing city. So far from being shameless beggars, many of those most in need have concealed their state as long as possible even from the eye of charity. But now comes pauperism indeed; and dire experience shows that if it is not eradicated, it will grow like a social fungus, and not only grow but become hereditary, as English pauperism has been found to a large extent to be. Toronto has reason to complain of the Government and its emigration agents; nor can she feel very grateful to her representatives in Parliament, who have failed to exert themselves for her protection against a danger to which of all the cities in the Dominion she is the most exposed. As soon as the season opens, strenuous efforts ought to be made to get the miserable colony of Conway street out into the country, and it is to be hoped that the next session of Parliament will not be allowed to pass without bringing the Government to book on the general subject of immigration. Our mechanics have a special grievance of their own; they reasonably protest against the importation of competitors at the cost of those the market for whose labour is to be invaded. Another practical moral to which Conway street points is the necessity of appointing without further delay a regular officer for the relief of casual distress and for the prevention, at the same time, of that waste of charity on the clamorous but undeserving, which the *Mail* most justly deploras. To say that the substitution of such an officer for the half organized visiting, the blind benevolence, and the ridiculous employment of the chief magistrate of the city as a superintendent of tramps, which constitute our present system, would undermine the independence of our people, is surely absurd. Nor would their self-respect be in any way impaired by the abolition of the practice, deeply disgraceful to a Christian city, of sending persons guilty of

no offence to herd with criminals in the city gaol as the only mode of rescuing them from starvation. The cost of these reforms would not be great; it would be covered by the saving of misdirected charity; and surely if we can afford the free circulation of novels, to which people have no more claim than to free theatre tickets, we can afford to meet a pressing exigency, and to perform a plain duty of humanity.

WE are in the midst of the annual wrangle about the exodus, each party, as usual, trying to show that Canadians fly from the devoted land when the other party is in power. It would be just as reasonable to debate the exodus from Yorkshire to London, or that from Normandy to Paris. The political division and the customs line remain; but economically and socially Canada and the United States are now one country, and over the whole alike the set of population is towards the points of commercial attraction. Industries of all kinds; those of the preacher, the journalist and the engineer as well as that of the common labourer, go, regardless of political allegiance, to the best market. It is not unlikely that the stream of emigration to the States has been somewhat swelled of late by Canadian workmen deprived of employment through the collapse of over-production; if so, the Finance Minister has reason to congratulate himself that the discontent finds that outlet, instead of being pent up at home. But there is an exodus of another kind, the significance of which is wholly different though no distinction is drawn by the statistics. The French are multiplying in Canada just as the Irish multiply in the Celtic Provinces of Ireland; the ægis of Imperial rule with its scrupulous liberality having in both cases protected them against the stronger race to the ascendancy of which their nationality would, in all probability, have otherwise succumbed. Not only is the English element being thrust out by the French from Quebec City, where the English population is now reduced to seven out of thirty thousand, and from the Province of Quebec generally, but the French element is overflowing the adjacent districts of Ontario and in still greater volume the adjacent parts of the United States. At the same time the connection with Old France is being studiously revived, the mother being evidently not less anxious than the daughter for its renewal. A France in America is apparently a thing of the near future, almost of the present. It would be strange if this should be the net upshot of Chatham's conquest, when, without that conquest, New France, under the pestilential shadow of the Bourbon despotism, would most likely have dwindled away and died.

THE friends of Toronto University who are so ardently advocating an increase in its endowment by the Province may as well spare themselves further pains. The veto of Victoria and Queen's, though it is not legitimate, is decisive. Legitimate it is not, because colleges, which, however liberally administered, are still denominational can have no right to be heard against the improvement of a national or provincial institution. Decisive it is, because neither the politician at the head of the Provincial Government, nor the politician who is the Chancellor of the University will dare to push the matter in opposition to the Methodist and Presbyterian vote. The cause which in public is supported has been abandoned behind the scenes. It is afflicting to see the religious antipathy to a common university again showing its force. Who that trusts in truth will adhere to a religion which flies from the centres of intelligence to pusillanimous and impotent seclusion? Is Christianity afraid of the best literary and scientific teaching? If it is, the cause is lost. Why cannot the faith and the morals of the Methodist or Presbyterian student be kept safe in the guardianship of a denominational college while he enjoys the benefit of the staff and the apparatus which only a great university can produce? It is hardly from Dr. Nelles or Dr. Grant that we should expect the avowal that ~~the~~ ^{their} counsels are Christian wisdom. Principal Caven is of a different mind.

THE nation which has no history is the happiest. The next happiest may be the nation whose history for the time being consists, as does that of the United States, in the election of a Speaker. If Mr. Carlisle's success denotes anything in relation to great questions, it denotes the growth of feeling in favour of Free Trade. Feeling in favour of Free Trade is growing beyond question, though, in the slow, fitful, and almost furtive way natural to an opinion which has to make head not only against rooted prejudices, but against vested interests of immense power. To suppose that Free Trade would ever prevail as a principle against the forces of Protection would have been to suppose that an unorganized and half-hearted crowd would overcome a disciplined and embattled army of men fighting for their lives. The Cobden Club with all its pamphlets, able though they were, did mere harm to its cause, because they seemed to identify Free Trade with the interest of the foreigner. But the strength of Protection lay in the popular conviction that the taxes were necessary to pay the inter-